

REMARKS

The Examiner's allowance of claims 25-32, 39-42 and 70-93 is noted with appreciation.

Claims 45, 69 and 191-199 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. The claims have been amended to overcome the stated grounds of rejection.

Claims 1, 2, 5-10, 13-16, 43, 46-69, 187-194 and 198-200 stand rejected on grounds of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-5 of United States Patent 6,542,931 ('931 Patent). Submitted herewith is a Terminal Disclaimer disclaiming the portion of the term of a patent issuing from the present application which extends beyond the term of the '931 Patent.

Claims 33-38, 44 and 45 stand rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-5 of the '931 Patent in view of United States Patent 5,579,316. The above-referenced filing of the disclaimer moots the stated grounds of rejection.

Claims 195-197 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 as being anticipated by United States Patent 6,032,197 (Birdwell et al). This ground of rejection is traversed for the following reasons.

Claim 195 recites a method of transmitting headers from a compressor to a decompressor comprising transmitting a plurality of packets from a compressor to a decompressor; and transmitting at least one additional packet from the compressor to the decompressor which has a smaller number of bits in the header of the at least one additional packet than a number of bits in a header in the plurality of packets when a transmission of a predetermined number of packets of the plurality of packets has occurred. Birdwell et al do not disclose this subject matter.

Birdwell et al disclose the transmission of compressed headers formed by a packet header compressor 32 and the reception of the compressed headers by clients 26. However, the claimed relationship of transmitting at least one additional packet from the compressor to the decompressor which has a smaller number of bits in a header of the at least one additional packet than a number of bits of header in the plurality of packets when a transmission of a predetermined number of packets of the plurality of packets has occurred is not taught. Birdwell et al do not describe any sequence of header compression with at least one additional packet being transmitted from the compressor to the decompressor depending upon a transmission of a predetermined number of packets of the previously transmitted plurality of packets. Birdwell et al disclose that the compression is dependent upon removing non-changing header fields from the compressed header which is not dependent on the number of packets which are transmitted. See column 5, lines 31-41. Moreover, it is submitted that there is no basis in the record to conclude that it would be obvious to transmit a compressed header dependent upon previous transmission of a predetermined number of packets.

Claims 94 and 95 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over Birdwell et al. The Examiner acknowledges that Birdwell fails to disclose the additional feature of providing the acknowledgment from the receiver to the transmitter which the Examiner contends is well-known in the art and commonly applied in communication fields for providing feedback mechanism. This ground of rejection is traversed for the reason that the Examiner has not cited prior art and is not suggesting that it is well known in the field of header compression to provide acknowledgements regarding header compression as covered by claims 94 and 95. There is no basis in the record why, without the citation of prior art, it would be

obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the teachings of Birdwell et al to apply the technique of using acknowledgments to the claimed transmission of compressed headers.

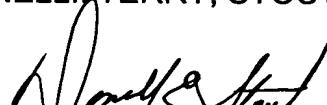
In this regard, it should be noted that the broadcast medium 24 of Birdwell et al is characterized as a shared highly asymmetrical network resource with a limited, if not completely absent, low speed return path but does not need to be active to receive broadcast transmissions. See column 4, lines 2-6. It is submitted that this passage suggests that a feedback mechanism in the form of acknowledgements would not be considered by a person of ordinary skill in the art.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is submitted that each of the claims in the application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, early allowance thereof is respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, Applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. §1.136. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (0172.37735X00) and please credit any excess fees to such Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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Attachments

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